<u>IN THE SPECIFICATION:</u>

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

Abstract

Dates stored in symbolic form in a database are reformatted to permit easy
manipulation and sorting of date-related information. Each date in M_1M_2, D_1D_2,
and Y_1Y_2 format is converted to C_1C_2, Y_1Y_2, M_1M_2, and D_1D_2 format. To
accomplish the conversion, a 10-decade window starting on Y_AY_B is defined that
encompasses all dates in the database. The value of C_1C_2 is determined by the
relative values of Y_1Y_2 and Y_AY_B. The reformatted date information is particularly
useful when the reformatting is in $C_1C_2Y_1Y_2M_1M_2D_1D_2$ format, because sorting by
date is accomplished using a pure numerical-value sort.

Please amend the Specification by adding the following to the end of the
Specification:

Exhibit A

```
!                 - -Century Conversion - -
!                 Bruce Dickens          Apr 04, 1996
!
!
10       open structure toos:name 'otms_src_dir:tools'
         open #2 : name 'last_inv.dat', access output
             print "   Tools 'Last Inventory Data Format' Check for 1996 Inventory"
             print "Tool No        "; " Model No       "; "    LAST_INV "; "LAST INV

"

             print "======     "; " =======    "; "   ======== "; "========
             print "Extract Data:"
             print #2:  "ToolNo   "; "    Model No "; " LAST_INV   ";
"LAST_INV"
             print #2:  "=====  "; "  ======== "; " ========   ";
"========"
             print #2:  "Extract Data"
```

```
20      extract structure tools

            yy$ = lpad$  (element$ (tools (last_inv),3,"/"), 2, "0")

            mm$ = lpad$  (element$ (tools (last_inv),1,"/"), 2, "0")

5           dd$ = lpad$  (element$ (tools (last_inv),2,"/"), 2, "0")

            cc$= yy$ + "/" + mm$ + dd$

            cl$ = change$ (cc$, '/', '')

            if cl$[1:2] , '50' then

              c$ = '20' + cl$

10      else

              c$= '19' + cl$

            end if

!           include c$ , '19960101'

              sort by tools(model)

15            sort by rpad$(c$,8, '0')

!           if c$[1:8] , '19960101' then

            print tools(toolno) ; tab (23); tools(model); &

                        tab(35); toos(last_inv); tab(44); c$

            print #2:   tools(toolno) ; tab (23); tools(model); &

20                      tab(35); toos(last_inv); tab(44); c$

              if valid  ( cl$, "digits" ) = 0 then

              print; tab(53); " Date format is not digits"

              print #2: ;tab(53); " Date format is not digits"

              end if

25  !         if valid  ( cl$, "minlength 6" ) = 0 then

    !         print; tab(50); " Date format is short"

    !         print #2: ;tab(50); " Date format is short"

    !             end if

              if tools(last_inv) = "" then

30            print; tab(53); " Date format is blank"

              print #2: ;tab(53); " Date format is blank"
```